

In the claims:

Please amend claims 2, 5, 7, and 9.

1. (Original) A process of treating wood with a preservative comprising:  
providing a wood substrate;  
applying to the wood substrate an aqueous solution comprising about 0.5% to about 50% of an iodic acid, a periodic acid, or a combination thereof;  
about 0.05% to about 10% of a fluorinated surfactant with a perfluorinated chain; and,  
optionally, an effective stabilizing amount of an ethoxylated nonylphenol ;  
wherein said aqueous solution reacts with the wood substrate to form an insoluble iodine matrix within the wood substrate, said iodine matrix providing a moisture resistant barrier imparting to the wood preservative properties against termites and decay.
2. (Currently Amended) A preservative solution for cellulosic materials comprising:  
an aqueous solution comprising about 0.5% to about 50% of an iodic acid, a periodic acid, or a combination thereof;  
about 0.05% to about 10% of a fluorinated surfactant with a perfluorinated chain; and,  
optionally, an effective stabilizing amount of an ethoxylated nonylphenol.
3. Previously Canceled
4. Previously Canceled
5. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 wherein said aqueous solution ~~further~~ comprises between about 0.5% to about 5.0% of an iodic acid, a periodic acid, or a combination thereof.
6. Previously Canceled
7. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 where in said applying step is selected from the ~~steps comprising~~ groups consisting of spraying, brushing, rolling, dipping, pressurization, and combinations thereof.
8. (Original) The product according to the process of claim 1.

9. (Currently Amended) A decay resistant wood product comprising a wooden substrate, said substrate having formed therein an iodine matrix formed by the reaction of between said wood substrate and a periodic acid containing an effective amount of a periodic acid stabilizer selected from the group consisting of fluorinated surfactants having a perfluorinated chain, ethoxylated nonylphenols, and combinations thereof.
10. (Original) The wood product according to claim 9 wherein said effective amount of said stabilizer comprises at least about 0. 05% by weight.
11. Previously Canceled